

Please amend Claims 1, 12, and 13 as shown below. A marked-up version showing the amendments to the claims is attached. For the Examiner's convenience, all of the pending claims are presented below, including those not presently being amended.

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1. (Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:  
detection means for detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and  
processing means for, when said detection means detects that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents,  
wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents.

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2. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means performs a filtering process.

3. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means reduces a resolution of said digital contents.

4. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means encrypts said digital contents.

5. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means adds a bit string to said digital contents.

6. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means adds visible or invisible information to said digital contents.

7. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means stores information concerning said digital contents.

8. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means halts the output of said digital contents.

9. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means corrects said digital contents and outputs the corrected digital contents.

10. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said digital contents are image data, and said control means corrects colors of said image data.

11. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, to detect an illegal activity, said detection means obtains a hash value by using at least one part of said digital contents.

12. (Amended) A data processing method comprising:

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a detection step for detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of a result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of the digital contents; and

a processing step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents, wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents.

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13. (Amended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising:

a detection step of detecting whether an illegal process has been performed for input digital contents on the basis of result obtained by performing a predetermined operation for at least a part of said digital contents; and

a processing step of, when it is detected at said detection step that the illegal process has been performed, performing a predetermined process for said digital contents, wherein the result is a result indicating whether a digital watermark is correctly embedded to the digital contents, and wherein when the digital watermark is not correctly embedded it is judged that an illegal process has been performed on the digital contents.

14. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus comprising: operation means for performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital

contents and that are included in a first subset;

extraction means for extracting information that is embedded as a digital watermark in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents; and comparison means for comparing the value obtained through said predetermined calculation with said information that is extracted.

15. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said operation means calculates hash values for said data values that are included in said first subset.

16. (Unamended) A data processing method comprising: an operation step of performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first subset;

an extraction step of extracting information that is embedded as a digital watermark in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents; and a comparison step of comparing the value obtained through said predetermined calculation with said information that is extracted.

17. (Unamended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising: an operation step of performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first subset;

an extraction step of extracting information that is embedded as a digital watermark

in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents; and  
a comparison step of comparing the value obtained through said predetermined calculation with said information that is extracted.

18. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus comprising:  
operation means for performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first subset; and  
embedding means for embedding a result obtained by said predetermined calculation in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents.

19. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said operation means calculates hash values for said data values that are included in said first sub-set.

20. (Unamended) A data processing method comprising:  
an operation step of performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in set; and  
an embedding step of embedding a result obtained by said predetermined calculation in a second sub-set. composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents.

21. (Unamended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is

stored, said program comprising:

an operation step of performing a predetermined calculation using data values that constitute input digital contents and that are included in a first subset; and

an embedding step of embedding a result obtained by said predetermined calculation in a second sub-set composed of said data values that constitute said digital contents.

22. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

embedding means for embedding, in digital contents, a digital watermark that includes a time whereat said digital contents were prepared; and

file preparation means for preparing a file that accompanies said digital contents and for writing in said file a file update time.

23. (Unamended) A data processing method comprising:

an embedding step of embedding, in digital contents, a digital watermark that includes a time whereat said digital contents were prepared; and

a file preparation step of preparing a file that accompanies said digital contents and of writing in said file a file update time.

24. (Unamended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising:

an embedding step of embedding, in digital contents, a digital watermark that includes a time whereat said digital contents were prepared; and

a file preparation step of preparing a file that accompanies said digital contents and of writing in said file a file update time.

25. (Unamended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

extraction means for extracting a digital contents preparation time, from digital contents in which information indicating said digital contents preparation time is embedded as a digital watermark, and a digital contents update time, from a file in which said digital contents update time is written; and

comparison means for comparing said preparation time with said update time.

26. (Unamended) A data processing method comprising:

an extraction step of extracting a digital contents preparation time, from digital contents in which information indicating said digital contents preparation time is embedded as a digital watermark, and a digital contents update time, from a file in which said digital contents update time is written; and

a comparison step of comparing said preparation time with said update time.

27. (Unamended) A storage medium on which a computer-readable program is stored, said program comprising:

an extraction step of extracting a digital contents preparation time, from digital contents in which information indicating said digital contents preparation time is embedded as a digital watermark, and a digital contents update time, from a file in which said digital contents update time is written; and